Today's topics:

- **SSS and syntax**
- **Double-*ga* sentences**

Background preparation:

- *Handout - "Syntax: Basics of X-bar (X') theory"*

0. Today's objectives

After today's class, you should be able to:

- Feel more confident in applying the **X' schema** to draw **tree structures** for Japanese sentences
- Use the X' schema to identify **syntactic subjects** and **syntactic objects**
- Identify **syntactic conditions** on certain **honorifics**
- Make a **syntactic argument** about the structure of **"double-*gα*" sentences** based on **honorifics**

1. Warm-up: Tree structures

Work groups

- Draw a syntax tree for this sentence:

Ken-ga	*ringo-o*	*tabe-ru.*	
Ken-NOM	apple-ACC	eat-NPST	'Ken eats apples.'

Some hints:

- What is the subject? What is the predicate?
- What kind of predicate do we seem to have here? What is a plausible structure for this predicate?

1. Warm-up: Tree structures

- Draw a syntax tree for this sentence

  Ken-ga *ringo-o* *tabe-ru.*

  Ken-NOM apple-ACC eat-NPST 'Ken eats apples.'

- Review: Tree structures for phrases, sentences

  Handout - Syntax: Basics of X-bar theory

2. Syntactic subject and syntactic object

- Now that we have a model of sentence structure, we can give **syntactic** definitions of subject, object
  - **Syntactic subject** = The NP that is in the **subject position** in the sentence tree
  - **Syntactic object** = The NP that is in the **direct object position** in the sentence tree

- **Define** these positions in terms of the **X' schema**
- What are the syntactic subject and the syntactic object of the sentence we just analyzed?

3. Honorifics and syntax

Work groups

- Data set - Honorifics and syntactic structure
  - What are the **syntactic conditions** on the use of these two honorific forms?

o + *V(+i)* + *ni nar-u*
- used when _____ is SSS

o + *V(+i)* + *s-u-ru*
- used when _____ is SSS and _____ is in-group

3. Honorifics and syntax

Syntactic conditions on honorifics

- Data set - Honorifics and syntactic structure
  - What are the **syntactic conditions** on the use of these two honorific forms?

o + *V(+i)* + *ni nar-u* • used when subject is SSS
  - sometimes known as subject honorifics

o + *V(+i)* + *s-u-ru* • used when object* is SSS and subject is in-group

* direct or indirect object
  - sometimes known as object honorifics

3. Honorifics and syntax

Work groups

- Compare:

Watasi-ga	*sensei-no*	*o-nimotu-o*	*o-moti si-mas-u.*
		HP-luggage	hold (carry)
Sensei-no	*o-nimotu-ga*	*todoi-ta.*	
		arrive	
# *Sensei-no*	*o-nimotu-ga*	*o-todok-i-ni natta.*	

- How do **syntax tree structures** help us understand this difference?
  - Hint: Find the **heads** of the subject, object NPs

3. Honorifics and syntax

- The honorific form *o-V si-* can be used when
  - The subject is in-group
  - **Some NP in the VP** is SSS

- The honorific form *o-V ni nar-* can be used when
  - **The head N of the subject NP** is SSS

- The syntactic requirements on SSS in the “subject” and “object” honorific constructions are different!

4. Positions, case, and thematic roles

- Consider the sentence tree we analyzed earlier:

Ken-ga	*ringo-o*	*tabe-ru.*	
Ken-NOM	apple-ACC	eat-NPST	'Ken eats apples.'

  - What are the **syntactic subject** and the **syntactic object**?
  - What **thematic roles** do the NPs in these positions have?

4. Positions, case, and thematic roles

- Consider the sentence tree you just drew:

Ken-ga	*ringo-o*	*tabe-ru.*	
Ken-NOM	apple-ACC	eat-NPST	‘Ken eats apples.’

	Ken-ga	*ringo-o*
position	syntactic subject	syntactic object
thematic role	agent	theme

4. Positions, case, and thematic roles

- How do we draw syntax trees for these sentences?
  These are sometimes known as “double-*ga*” sentences

Ken-ga	*supeingo-ga*	*deki-ru.*
Ken-NOM	Spanish-NOM	be.capable-NPST
Ken-ni	*supeingo-ga*	*deki-ru.*
Ken-DAT	Spanish-NOM	be.capable-NPST

both mean: ‘Ken can (speak) Spanish.’

  - Is an NP marked with *-ga* always a **subject**?

4. Positions, case, and thematic roles

- What kinds of sentences use this pattern?
  - Examples of double-*ga* predicates (Koizumi 2008: (16))

kowa(*-i*) 'afraid of', *hosi*(*-i*) 'want', *suki*(*-da*) 'like', *kirai*(*-da*) 'hate',
hituyoo(*-da*) 'need', *tokui*(*-da*) 'good at', *heta*(*-da*) 'bad at', etc.

b. Stative transitive verbs
deki(*-ru*) 'can do', *waka*(*-ru*) 'understand', *ar*(*-u*) 'have', etc.

c. Complex stative predicates
   i. Potential verbs (V-*rare/e*(*-ru*) 'can V')
   tabe-rare(*-ru*) 'can eat', *nom-e*(*-ru*) 'can drink',
   hanas-e(*-ru*) 'can speak', *tumur-e*(*-ru*) 'can close', etc.
   ii. Desiderative adjectives (V-*ta*(*-i*) 'want to V')
   tabe-ta(*-i*) 'want to eat', *nomi-ta*(*-i*) 'want to drink',
   hanasi-ta(*-i*) 'want to speak', *tsumuri-ta*(*-i*) 'want to close', etc.

  - What **thematic role** do these predicates assign to the syntactic subject?

4. Positions, case, and thematic roles

- What are the **structural positions** here?

Ken-ga	*supeingo-ga*	*dekiru.*
Ken-NOM	Spanish-NOM	be.capable-NPST

Ken-ni	*supeingo-ga*	*dekiru.*
Ken-DAT	Spanish-NOM	be.capable-NPST

  - Is *Ken-ga / Ken-ni* a structural subject?
  - Is *supeingo-ga* a structural object?

- Let's go back to honorifics...

4. Positions, case, and thematic roles

- Remember: What **structural position** must an SSS be in, to license the use of "subject honorifics"? (Examples from Koizumi 2008)

Tigusa-sensei-ga *gakuseitati-o* *o-yobi ni nat-ta.*
Chigusa-prof.-NOM students-ACC called (SUBJ-HON)
'Prof. Chigusa called students.'

#Gakuseitati-ga *Tigusa-sensei-o* *o-yobi ni nat-ta.*
students-NOM Chigusa-prof.-ACC called (SUBJ-HON)
'Students called Prof. Chigusa.'

4. Positions, case, and thematic roles

- Does the second *-ga* phrase **behave** like a **subject**? (Koizumi 2008)

Tigusa-sensei-ga *gakuseitati-ga* *o-suki-da.*
Chigusa-prof.-NOM students-NOM like (SUBJ-HON)
'Prof. Chigusa likes students.'

#Gakuseitati-ga *Tigusa-sensei-ga* *o-suki-da.*
students-NOM Chigusa-prof.-NOM like (SUBJ-HON)
'Students like Prof. Chigusa.' (# with this interpretation)

4. Positions, case, and thematic roles

- Some conclusions
  - Syntactic **subjects** are not always agents (we've seen this before)
  - Syntactic **objects** are sometimes marked with *-ga*
    - Stative predicates with subjects that do not have an agent thematic role show this pattern
- When is a verb **transitive**?
  - When it marks its object with *-o*?
  - When the V head occurs with a complement?

  Are these two conditions identical?

5. Upcoming

- Note change in schedule
  - Quiz 4 moves ahead a week (F Nov 6), will include semantics
  - F Oct 30 is now a project workshop day (topic proposals)
- For next time
  - Prep questions: Will include uploading syntax tree diagrams
  - Optional syntax reading will be posted for those who would like more in-depth background